March 28, 1958

BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

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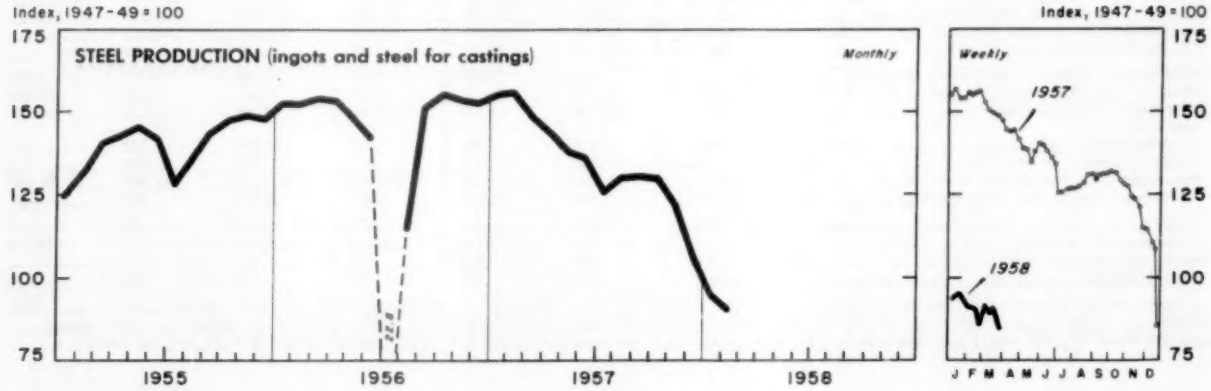
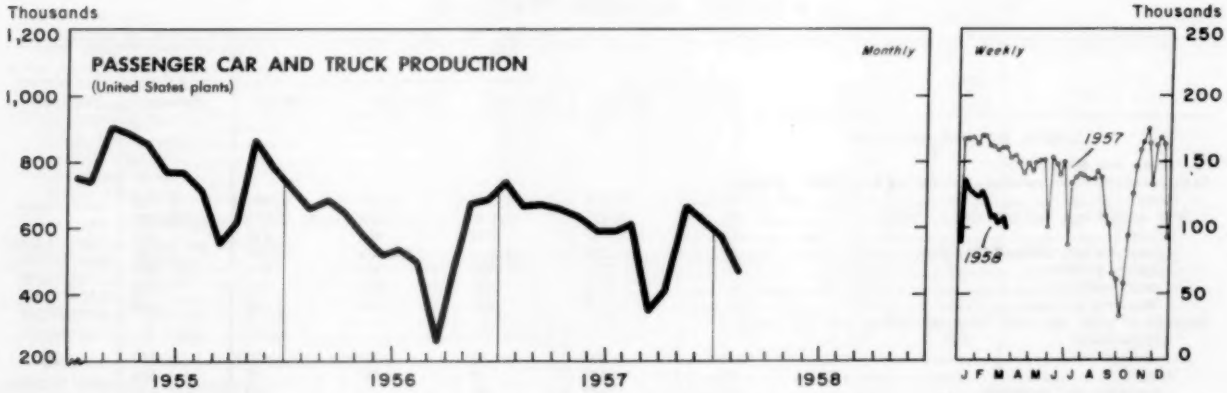
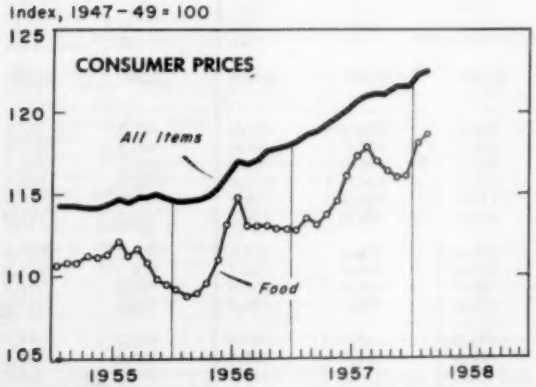
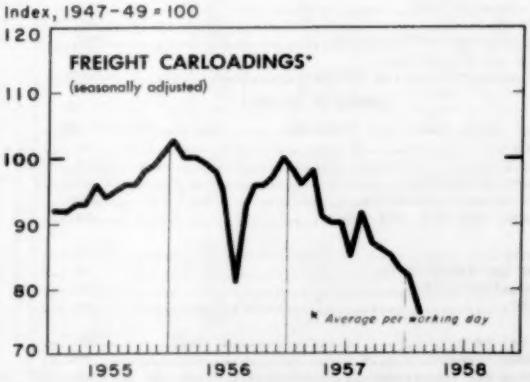
SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS









WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS[1]

ITEM	1957		1958			
	Mar. 16	Mar. 23	Mar. 1	Mar. 8	Mar. 15	Mar. 22
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*116.9	.....	119.4	119.5	119.7
Farm products.....do....	.....	*88.8	.....	99.0	99.8	99.8
Foods, processed.....do....	.....	*103.7	.....	109.6	109.5	109.9
All other.....do....	.....	*125.4	.....	125.8	125.9	125.9
22 commodities 2/.....do....	88.8	88.8	85.7	85.6	85.4	85.5
Department store sales.....do....	107	113	100	105	106	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,723	1,665	3,502	3,496	.....	.....
State programs.....do....	1,593	1,539	3,238	3,231	.....	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	301	318	331	358	336	357
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	30,609	30,589	30,542	30,562	30,641	30,592
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/.....do....	24,791	25,158	24,527	24,309	24,456	24,638
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do....	18,654	19,204	18,909	18,674	18,699	18,930
Excess reserves, estimated 3/.....do....	449	626	454	551	608	607
Federal Reserve reporting member banks in leading cities: 4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	56,905	55,704	54,943	54,503	56,031	.....
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....	22,929	23,020	25,768	26,038	26,264	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	85,653	86,747	87,361	88,576	89,408	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	25,676	25,990	26,856	27,707	28,025	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross)....do....	30,844	31,579	30,448	30,241	30,372	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	8,740	8,746	8,742	8,709	8,725	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	3.97	3.97	4.00	4.03	4.03	4.04
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/...1941-43=10..	44.04	44.10	40.92	41.47	42.41	42.09
Industrials, 425 stocks.....do....	46.88	46.99	43.62	44.25	45.33	44.95
Production:						
Bituminous coal 5/.....thous. of short tons..	1,706	1,723	1,385	1,350	1,258	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	11,650	11,723	11,803	11,793	11,860	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	161,904	161,865	108,959	101,415	103,399	99,486
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. of bbl..	7,799	7,818	6,841	6,328	6,257	.....
Steel 5/.....thous. of short tons..	2,401	2,392	1,475	1,425	1,463	1,417
Percent of capacity.....	93.8	93.5	#54.6	#52.8	#54.2	#52.5
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	689	686	554	544	539	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	356	355	282	280	280	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday date. 5/ Week beginning March 24, 1958: Production, 1,363 thous. short tons; operating rate, 50.5 percent. * Monthly index for March 1957. # Based on January 1, 1958, annual capacity (140,742,570 tons); not comparable with 1957 rates which are based on January 1, 1957, annual capacity (133,459,150 tons).

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1957				1958	
	January	February	November	December	January	February
GENERAL BUSINESS INDICATORS						
Farm income and marketings:						
Cash receipts from farming, including Government payments, total.....mil. of dol..	2,615	2,049	3,267	2,981	2,753	.....
Farm marketings and CCC loans, total.....do....	2,571	2,018	3,205	2,933	2,708	.....
Crops.....do....	1,187	802	1,687	1,473	1,171	.....
Livestock and products, total.....do....	1,384	1,216	1,518	1,460	1,537	.....
Dairy products.....do....	373	352	363	377	377	.....
Meat animals.....do....	766	627	826	751	886	.....
Poultry and eggs.....do....	215	208	312	307	246	.....
Indexes of cash receipts from marketings and CCC loans, unadjusted:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	105	83	131	120	111	.....
Crops.....do....	110	75	157	137	109	.....
Livestock and products.....do....	102	89	111	107	113	.....
Indexes of volume of farm marketings, unadjusted:						
All commodities.....do....	120	97	151	131	126	.....
Crops.....do....	113	78	178	149	130	.....
Livestock and products.....do....	126	111	130	117	122	.....
Business incorporations:						
New incorporations (48 States).....number..	13,387	10,791	9,270	10,575	13,080	10,466
COMMODITY PRICES						
Consumer price index, all items.....1947-49=100..	118.2	118.7	121.6	121.6	122.3	1/122.5
Apparel.....do....	106.4	106.1	107.9	107.6	106.9	106.8
Food.....do....	112.8	113.6	116.0	116.1	118.2	118.7
Dairy products.....do....	111.2	111.1	114.5	114.6	114.6	114.5
Fruits and vegetables.....do....	116.9	116.5	114.6	113.9	121.9	124.4
Meats, poultry, and fish.....do....	99.0	101.4	104.6	106.0	110.2	112.0
Housing.....do....	123.8	124.5	126.8	127.0	127.1	127.3
Gas and electricity.....do....	112.3	112.4	114.3	114.3	115.7	115.9
Housefurnishings.....do....	104.0	105.0	104.5	104.9	104.2	104.9
Rent.....do....	134.2	134.2	136.3	136.7	136.8	137.0
Medical care.....do....	135.3	135.5	140.3	140.8	141.7	141.9
Personal care.....do....	122.1	122.6	126.7	127.0	127.8	128.0
Reading and recreation.....do....	109.9	110.0	114.4	114.6	116.6	116.6

1/ Index based on 1935-39=100 is 204.8.

ITEM	1957				1958	
	January	February	November	December	January	February
COMMODITY PRICES - Continued						
Consumer price index - Continued						
Transportation.....1947-49=100..	133.6	134.4	140.0	138.9	138.7	138.5
Private.....do....	123.8	124.5	129.7	128.6	128.4	127.9
Public.....do....	174.9	179.8	182.8	182.4	182.4	185.4
Other goods and services.....do....	123.8	124.0	126.8	126.8	127.0	127.0
Purchasing power of the dollar as measured by—						
Wholesale prices.....1947-49=100..	85.5	85.5	84.7	84.4	84.2	1/84.1
Consumer prices.....do....	84.6	84.2	82.2	82.2	81.8	1/81.6
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
Construction cost index (E. H. Boeckh and Associates):						
Average, 20 cities:						
Apartments, hotels, and office buildings:						
Brick and concrete.....U. S. avg. 1926-29=100..	282.7	283.1	290.7	291.1	291.5	291.4
Brick and steel.....do....	278.3	278.5	284.3	284.4	284.4	284.2
Brick and wood.....do....	277.9	278.3	282.1	282.3	282.4	281.5
Commercial and factory buildings:						
Brick and concrete.....do....	291.3	291.8	300.5	301.0	301.7	302.0
Brick and steel.....do....	290.3	291.3	300.5	300.8	301.2	301.3
Brick and wood.....do....	277.4	278.1	282.2	282.3	282.5	282.1
Frame.....do....	275.4	275.3	278.4	278.5	278.7	277.0
Steel.....do....	276.8	278.4	288.3	288.4	288.6	288.7
Residences:						
Brick.....do....	278.3	278.6	282.5	282.6	282.9	281.9
Frame.....do....	270.7	270.8	273.7	273.8	273.9	272.5
FINANCE						
Agricultural loans and discounts outstanding of agencies supervised by the Farm Credit Adm.:						
Total.....mil. of dol..	3,003	3,062	3,329	3,339	3,363	3,404
Farm mortgage loans: Federal land banks.....do....	1,763	1,788	1,908	1,919	1,925	1,934
Loans to cooperatives.....do....	454	444	452	454	456	442
Other loans and discounts.....do....	786	829	969	966	982	1,028
Federal Government finance:						
Receipts, total.....mil. of dol..	5,279	7,486	5,845	6,611	5,243	7,756
Receipts, net.....do....	4,809	6,188	4,827	5,956	4,786	6,299
Customs.....do....	64	53	67	63	69	58
Individual income taxes.....do....	3,126	4,708	3,512	2,477	3,034	4,741
Corporation income and profits taxes.....do....	461	445	367	2,277	486	408
Employment taxes.....do....	316	1,160	740	432	385	1,302
Other internal revenue and receipts.....do....	1,311	1,120	1,158	1,363	1,270	1,249
Expenditures #.....do....	6,095	5,743	5,806	5,809	6,011	5,528
Interest on public debt.....do....	651	585	636	674	693	606
All other expenditures.....do....	5,444	5,158	5,169	5,136	5,318	4,922
Life insurance (Institute of Life Insurance):						
Payments to policyholders and beneficiaries, total....do....	595.9	495.0	525.2	681.2	652.5	.....
Death benefits.....do....	236.9	207.4	222.4	255.4	258.1	.....
Matured endowments.....do....	66.5	56.4	57.8	67.2	67.7	.....
Disability payments.....do....	10.9	8.9	9.2	8.8	11.4	.....
Annuity payments.....do....	61.5	41.9	44.8	40.3	67.1	.....
Surrender values.....do....	98.0	94.4	101.7	119.1	119.3	.....
Policy dividends.....do....	122.1	86.0	89.3	190.4	128.9	.....
TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS						
Operations on scheduled airlines:						
Miles flown, revenue.....thousands..	56,255	51,682	57,523	61,638	61,561	.....
Express and freight ton-miles flown.....do....	20,430	18,272	20,686	21,730	20,600	.....
Mail ton-miles flown.....do....	7,865	7,397	7,762	11,083	8,276	.....
Passengers originated, revenue.....do....	3,045	2,808	3,114	3,274	3,341	.....
Passenger-miles flown, revenue.....millions..	1,896	1,702	1,790	2,031	2,072	.....
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS						
Organic chemicals, production:						
Acetic acid (synthetic and natural).....thous. of lb..	53,628	41,227	47,259	48,829	.....	.....
Acetic anhydride.....do....	85,428	74,946	85,266	86,675	80,808	.....
Acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin).....do....	1,491	1,512	1,774	2,034	2,144	.....
Creosote oil.....thous. of gal..	7,978	8,955	9,936	9,729	8,506	.....
DDT.....thous. of lb..	10,878	9,311	9,017	8,870	10,451	.....
Ethyl acetate (85%).....do....	8,748	5,702	9,002	9,074	6,281	.....
Ethylene glycol.....do....	93,089	82,526	106,358	103,997	106,806	.....
Formaldehyde (37% HCHO).....do....	109,149	105,976	117,081	104,466	111,467	.....
Methanol:						
Natural (100%).....thous. of gal..	171	166	134	148	.....	.....
Synthetic (100%).....do....	20,503	18,144	17,747	19,588	18,192	.....
Phthalic anhydride.....thous. of lb..	25,561	27,242	31,231	31,913	25,436	.....
Synthetic plastics and resin materials, production:						
Cellulose acetate and mixed ester plastics:						
Sheets, rods, and tubes.....do....	3,491	3,292	3,653	3,885	3,422	.....
Molding and extrusion materials.....do....	7,456	7,187	7,624	7,778	6,138	.....
Nitrocellulose sheets, rods, and tubes.....do....	377	429	339	360	348	.....
Other cellulose plastics.....do....	525	375	344	259	874	.....
Phenolic and other tar acid resins.....do....	41,373	37,064	37,769	34,379	38,281	.....
Polystyrene.....do....	43,507	46,097	47,811	45,903	41,634	.....

r/ Revised. 1/ Indexes based on 1935-39=100 are as follows: Measured by--wholesale prices, 44.0; consumer prices, 48.8. # Revisions of Jan.-June 1957 figures (published in March 1958 SURVEY and earlier issues) for major national security expenditures to include data for defense support (included in figures beginning July 1957): Mil. of dol.—3,833; 3,654; 3,788; 4,011; 3,869; 4,114.

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ITEM	1957				1958	
	January	February	November	December	January	February
CHEMICALS AND ALLIED PRODUCTS - Continued						
Synthetic plastics and resin materials, production - Con.						
Urea and melamine resins.....thous. of lb..	23,097	22,556	22,926	23,094	24,209	.....
Vinyl resins.....do....	67,096	64,005	71,535	66,458	68,975	.....
Alkyd resins.....do....	34,948	29,980	24,937	24,059	27,927	.....
Rosin modifications.....do....	10,848	10,517	9,097	7,590	10,340	.....
Polyester resins.....do....	7,265	7,187	6,589	6,546	7,260	.....
Polyethylene resins.....do....	52,394	49,800	62,936	68,510	69,522	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	14,829	13,080	16,046	14,741	14,408	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Pig iron, production.....thous. of short tons..	7,282	6,658	5,780	5,279	4,854	4,064
Furnaces, industrial, new orders, net:						
Electric processing.....thous. of dol..	2,062	4,441	749	1,593	701	1,420
Fuel-fired (except for hot rolling steel).....do....	4,581	3,429	1,634	2,180	1,593	717
Vacuum cleaners, standard type, sales billed.....thousands..	276.7	300.9	251.1	237.5	265.5	225.6
Washers, domestic, sales billed 1/.....do....	331.3	319.6	260.5	206.8	238.2	263.1
PAPER AND PRINTING						
Newsprint, Canada (including Newfoundland):						
Production.....thous. of short tons..	558.6	518.9	504.9	435.3	498.3	473.8
Shipments from mills.....do....	513.6	510.9	520.5	471.4	474.8	435.2
Stocks, at mills, end of month.....do....	145.0	153.1	168.6	132.5	155.9	194.6
Newsprint, United States:						
Consumption by publishers.....do....	407.6	387.2	453.0	436.3	385.9	364.7
Production.....do....	157.7	150.7	140.4	138.7	157.0	140.4
Shipments from mills.....do....	158.9	151.6	143.1	135.1	158.8	138.7
Stocks, end of month:						
At mills.....do....	8.9	8.0	15.7	19.3	17.6	19.3
At publishers.....do....	551.1	591.7	628.0	595.4	602.0	612.2
In transit to publishers.....do....	113.1	119.6	94.8	79.6	108.1	107.5
TEXTILE PRODUCTS						
Cotton: 2/						
Consumption.....bales..	842,452	687,905	656,205	571,287	799,800	639,635
Manufactures:						
Spindle activity (cotton system spindles):						
Active spindles, last working day.....thousands..	20,231	r20,166	19,747	19,730	19,606	19,615
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do....	18,725	18,639	18,133	18,144	17,950	17,945
Spindle hours operated, all fibers, total...mil. of hr..	11,620	r9,407	8,963	7,951	11,045	8,843
Average per working day.....do....	465	r470	448	398	442	442
Consuming 100 percent cotton.....do....	10,790	8,749	8,231	7,309	10,199	8,161
Rayon and acetate:						
Production:						
Filament yarn.....mil. of lb..	69.8	61.3	58.6	56.2	57.6	49.4
Staple (incl. tow).....do....	37.7	31.9	35.8	36.7	31.2	27.7
Stocks, producers', end of month, total.....do....	104.6	105.6	124.8	130.4	131.1	133.3
Filament yarn.....do....	58.2	59.2	70.1	71.8	69.9	69.9
Staple (incl. tow).....do....	46.4	46.4	54.7	58.6	61.2	63.4
TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT						
Truck trailers, production, total.....number..	5,032	5,090	3,974	r3,636	3,447	.....
Complete trailers.....do....	4,783	4,832	3,631	r3,326	3,161	.....
Vans.....do....	2,625	2,654	2,018	r1,863	1,689	.....

r/ Revised. 1/ Data exclude sales of combination washer-dryer units; sales of such types totaled 12,150 units in February 1957. 2/ Data for January 1957 and January 1958 cover 5 weeks; other months, 4 weeks.

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